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ACTION SS-00

INFO LOG-00 AF-01 AGRE-00 AID-01 CA-02 CIAE-00 C-01
OASY-00 DODE-00 EB-01 EUR-01 HA-09 HHS-01 H-01
TEDE-00 INR-00 IO-16 L-01 ADS-00 NSAE-00 NSCE-00
OCS-06 OIC-02 PA-01 PM-00 PRS-01 P-01 SP-00
SR-00 SSO-00 STR-01 TRSE-00 USIE-00 RPE-01 PMB-00
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O 151641Z APR 94
FM USMISSION GENEVA
TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 7772
INFO AMEMBASSY BUJUMBURA IMMEDIATE
AMEMBASSY KINSHASA IMMEDIATE
AMEMBASSY DAR ES SALAAM IMMEDIATE
AMEMBASSY KAMPALA IMMEDIATE
AMEMBASSY NAIROBI IMMEDIATE
USMISSION USUN NEW YORK IMMEDIATE
AMEMBASSY PARIS IMMEDIATE
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SUBJECT: TFRW01: ICRC, UNHCR AND UNV REPORTS ON RWANDA
CRISIS - APRIL 15

REF: (A) GENEVA 3543, (B) STATE 99238

SUMMARY

1. (U) AFTER ITS 4/14 SUSPENSION OF THE OPERATION TO
COLLECT CASUALTIES FOR MEDICAL CARE IN KIGALI, ICRC NOW
EXPECTS TO RESUME THOSE COLLECTIONS AS WELL AS FOOD
DISTRIBUTIONS EITHER LATER TODAY OR ON SATURDAY. ICRC
EXPAT DELEGATES REMAIN IN-COUNTRY OPERATING AT THE
LIMITS OF THE RISKS THE ORGANIZATION IS WILLING TO TAKE.

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2. (LOU) THE FRENCH GOVERNMENT MAY PROVIDE UNHCR WITH ASSISTANCE TO TRANSPORT A TEN-PERSON EMERGENCY TEAM PLUS EQUIPMENT FROM NAIROBI TO GOMA, ZAIRE THIS WEEKEND. UNHCR IS INVESTIGATING REPORTS THAT 3,000 TUTSIS WERE PREVENTED FROM FLEEING RWANDA AND ARE HOLED UP IN A CHURCH IN CYANGUGU, RWANDA THAT IS SURROUNDED BY ARMED FORCES. UNHCR WILL CONSIDER THE POSSIBILITY OF THIRD-COUNTRY RESETTLEMENT FOR THE RWANDAN HUMAN RIGHTS ACTIVIST TEMPORARILY IN BUJUMBURA. END SUMMARY.

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INTERNATIONAL COMMITTEE OF THE RED CROSS

3. (U) YESTERDAY, MISSION REPORTED (REFTEL A) ON THE ICRC SUSPENSION OF OPERATIONS TO COLLECT CASUALTIES. LAST NIGHT, ICRC ISSUED A PRESS RELEASE DESCRIBING HOW LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

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"KIGALI ARMED MILITIAMEN" SHOT TO DEATH, IN THE PRESENCE OF MEMBERS OF THE ARMED FORCES, SIX WOUNDED PEOPLE WHO WERE BEING TAKEN BY RWANDAN RED CROSS VOLUNTEERS TO A FIELD HOSPITAL SET UP BY ICRC. ICRC DESCRIBED THIS AS AN "OUTRAGEOUS ACT" WHICH COMPELLED IT AND THE RWANDAN RED CROSS TO SUSPEND THE COLLECTION OF CASUALTIES IN THE CAPITAL, "WHERE THE MOST ELEMENTARY RULES OF HUMANITY ARE BEING FLOUTED." ICRC STRONGLY APPEALED TO ALL COMBATANTS, INCLUDING ARMED MILITIA AND THEIR LEADERS, TO PUT A STOP TO THE CARNAGE IN ALL AREAS OF RWANDA AFFECTED BY VIOLENCE AND TO ALLOW THE RED CROSS TO ASSIST THE WOUNDED WITHOUT DISCRIMINATION. AN ICRC PRESS RELEASE ISSUED TODAY SAID THAT MORE THAN 10,000 PEOPLE HAVE DIED IN THE VIOLENCE.

4. (U) [REDACTED]
[REDACTED] TOLD US TODAY THAT ICRC HAS ABLE TO GET KIGALI RADIO STATION MILLES COLLINES (WHICH HE SAID IS EFFECTIVELY "RUNNING THE CITY") TO PASS THE MESSAGE THAT ICRC'S HUMANITARIAN WORK WAS PROPER AND SHOULD BE ACCEPTED BY ALL. AS A RESULT, ICRC EXPECTS TO BE ABLE TO RESUME THE COLLECTION OF CASUALTIES AS WELL AS FOOD DISTRIBUTIONS EITHER LATER TODAY OR TOMORROW. THE WORLD FOOD PROGRAM HAS OFFERED TO ICRC ANY FOOD REMAINING IN WFP'S WAREHOUSES IN THE KIGALI AREA. IN THE MEANTIME, ICRC'S SURGICAL ACTIVITIES HAVE CONTINUED AS MANY WOUNDED HAVE FOUND THEIR OWN WAY TO THE ICRC-RUN HOSPITALS.

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5. (U) [] REPORTED THAT THE PLANNED 4/14
CONVOY FROM RUHENGARI TO GOMA, ZAIRE (REFTEL A) WAS
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UNABLE TO MOVE BECAUSE THE MILITARY ESCORT WOULD NOT
ACCOMPANY IT. THE ICRC DELEGATE IS TRYING TO MAKE IT TO
GOMA ON HIS OWN. GIVEN THE LARGE NUMBER OF RELIEF
WORKERS HEADED FOR GOMA, ICRC MAY END UP SENDING ITS
REINFORCEMENTS ELSEWHERE.

6. (U) [] SAID THE VIOLENCE IN KIGALI WAS
CONTINUING. HE DID NOT HAVE REPORTS FROM OTHER PARTS OF
RWANDA. HE SAID ICRC WAS KEEPING ALL OF ITS DELEGATES
IN-COUNTRY, THOUGH THEY ARE "NOT NAIVE" -- THEY ARE
OPERATING AT THE LIMITS OF HOW FAR THEY CAN GO IN A VERY
DANGEROUS SITUATION.

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TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 7773
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SUBJECT: TFRW01: ICRC, UNHCR AND UNV REPORTS ON RWANDA
UN HIGH COMMISSIONER FOR REFUGEES

7. (U)

[REDACTED] SAID AN EMERGENCY RESPONSE TEAM OF ABOUT TEN PERSONS WILL ARRIVE, PROBABLY ON SUNDAY, IN GOMA TO PREPARE FOR POSSIBLE REFUGEE OUTFLOWS. HE SAID THE FRENCH MAY PROVIDE A C-130 TRANSPORT PLANE FOR THE TEAM AND ITS EQUIPMENT FROM NAIROBI TO GOMA. UNHCR IS ALSO SENDING AN OFFICER TO WORK AT UNHCR'S LOGISTICS HUB IN NAIROBI. THEY HAVE NOW DECIDED TO SEND ONE ADVANCE EMERGENCY RESPONSE OFFICER TO TANZANIA (MAUREEN CONNELLY, WHO RECENTLY WORKED ON THE BURUNDI REFUGEE CRISIS). THE REMAINDER OF THE TEAM WILL BE ON 72-HOUR NOTICE TO TRAVEL TO THE REGION, AS NECESSARY.

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8. (U)

[REDACTED] SAID THAT UNHCR RECEIVED A REPORT THAT 3,000 TUTSIS ATTEMPTING TO FLEE RWANDA WERE HOLED UP IN A CHURCH IN CYANGUGU, RWANDA (OPPOSITE BUKAVU, ZAIRE) THAT IS SURROUNDED BY ARMED FORCES. THE HEAD OF UNHCR'S BUKAVU SUB-OFFICE WAS TRYING TO TRAVEL TO CYANGUGU TO SEE WHAT COULD BE DONE TO PROTECT THOSE ATTEMPTING TO FLEE. [REDACTED] SAID UNHCR HAD ALSO RECEIVED OTHER REPORTS THAT RWANDANS ATTEMPTING TO FLEE WERE BEING STOPPED BY THE MILITARY.

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9. (U) CURRENT NUMBERS FOR REFUGEE FLOWS AVAILABLE TO UNHCR ARE AS FOLLOWS. (NOTE. THE FIGURES FOR MOVEMENTS INTO ZAIRE CORRECT FIGURES REPORTED IN REFTEL A. END NOTE.)

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RWANDANS:

-- 12,000 RWANDANS INTO ZAIRE, NORTH OF GOMA
-- 1,000 RWANDANS INTO BURUNDI
-- 400 RWANDANS INTO KISORO, UGANDA

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-- A FEW HUNDRED RWANDANS INTO TANZANIA

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BURUNDIANS:

-- 11,000 BURUNDI REFUGEES IN RWANDA RETURNED TO BURUNDI
-- 5,000 BURUNDI REFUGEES IN CYANGUGU, RWANDA, WENT TO
ZAIRE (ADDING TO THE 75,000 BURUNDI REFUGEES WHO WERE
ALREADY IN ZAIRE PRIOR TO THE APRIL 6 PLANE CRASH).

10. (LOU) PER REFTTEL B, TASK FORCE EARLIER INSTRUCTED
EMBASSY BUJUMBURA TO INFORM LOCAL UNHCR REP OF CONCERNS
THAT [REDACTED]

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COULD BE IN DANGER IF HE WERE SENT TO ZAIRE. WE
CONTACTED UNHCR/GENEVA'S AFRICA LEGAL ADVISER KIMBIMBI
TODAY TO DISCUSS THOSE CONCERNS. KIMBIMBI SAID THAT
BACRE NDIAYE, THE UN HUMAN RIGHTS COMMISSION'S SPECIAL
RAPPORTEUR FOR EXTRAJUDICIAL, SUMMARY OR ARBITRARY
EXECUTIONS, HAD ALSO SENT A LETTER TO THE GRB (WITH A
COPY TO UNHCR) URGING THAT [REDACTED] EITHER BE ALLOWED TO
REMAIN IN BURUNDI OR ALLOWED TO TRAVEL TO AN ACCEPTABLE
COUNTRY OTHER THAN ZAIRE. ACCORDING TO KIMBIMBI, THE
BURUNDI GOVERNMENT ACCEPTED ABOUT 20 OF THOSE WHO HAD
BEEN FLOWN IN BY THE FRENCH, INCLUDING [REDACTED]
KIMBIMBI UNDERSTANDS THAT NKUBITO HAS LEFT THE AIRPORT
AND IS TEMPORARILY SAFE IN BUJUMBURA. UNHCR EXPECTS IT
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WILL NEED TO PURSUE THIRD COUNTRY RESETTLEMENT FOR
[REDACTED] HE MENTIONED BELGIUM AND THE U.S. AS POSSIBLE
COUNTRIES THAT WOULD BE APPROACHED.

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UN VOLUNTEER PROGRAM

11. (U) WE ALSO SPOKE TO [REDACTED] SAID

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THAT 33 VOLUNTEERS IN RWANDA (16 FOR HUMANITARIAN
RELIEF, 17 FOR DEVELOPMENT WORK) HAD ALL EVACUATED
SAFELY. UNV IS NOW MAKING DECISIONS ON WHICH OF THE
VOLUNTEERS WILL BE REDEPLOYED TO HANDLE THE EMERGENCY IN
NEIGHBORING COUNTRIES AND WHICH WILL BE LET GO. UNV HAS

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DISCUSSED STAFFING NEEDS WITH UNICEF, AND UNHCR HAS
PROVIDED UNV WITH EARLY WARNING THAT VOLUNTEERS PROBABLY
WILL BE NEEDED IN ZAIRE AND TANZANIA. UNV IS ALREADY
IDENTIFYING PEOPLE ON THEIR ROSTER TO FILL IMMEDIATE
NEEDS THAT MAY ARISE.

12. (LOU) [] SAID THAT A NUMBER OF THE
VOLUNTEERS WHO HAD BEEN EVACUATED FROM RWANDA WERE
TRAUMATIZED AND WOULD NOT BE ABLE TO CONTINUE WORKING.
HE SAID THAT PRIME MINISTER AGATHE UWILINGIYIMANA WAS
ASSASSINATED ON THE UNV PART OF UNDP'S COMPOUND IN
KIGALI. THOUGH HE HAS NOT SPOKEN DIRECTLY TO THE
VOLUNTEERS, UNV REPORTS ARE THAT THE VOLUNTEERS AND
THEIR FAMILIES WERE ROUGHED UP AND THEN FORCED TO
WITNESS THE PRIME MINISTER'S ASSASSINATION. COUNSELING
EXPERTS ASSOCIATED WITH UN ORGANIZATIONS IN NAIROBI ARE

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ASSISTING THOSE VOLUNTEERS AND OTHERS WHO WITNESSED
OTHER INCIDENTS.

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13. (U) MINIMIZE CONSIDERED. RODGERS

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